



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900  
Seattle, WA 98101-3140

DEC 02 2010

OFFICE OF  
WATER AND WATERSHEDS

Reply To  
Attn Of: OWW-130

Sharmon Stambaugh  
Program Manager  
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation  
Division of Water  
555 Cordova Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2617

RE: Request for CWA Draft 401 Certification of Preliminary Cook Inlet NPDES General Permit Re-proposal (AKG-31-5000)

Dear Ms. Stambaugh:

Enclosed is the preliminary draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination (NPDES) General Permit (General Permit) and draft Fact Sheet for the Cook Inlet re-proposal in response to the October 21, 2010 Ninth Circuit Court Decision (Ninth Circuit, Case No. 07-72420). The preliminary draft re-proposal of the General Permit addresses the following effluent limits for produced water (Outfall 015): mercury, copper, total aromatic hydrocarbons (TAH), total aqueous hydrocarbons (TAQH), silver, and whole effluent toxicity (WET).

With this submittal, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is requesting a draft certification of the preliminary General Permit re-proposal pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. EPA would appreciate the draft certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) by January 14, 2011.

EPA looks forward to receiving the draft 401 certification and the joint EPA/ADEC public noticing of the certification along with the draft General Permit re-proposal and Fact Sheet. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (206) 553-1755 or Hanh Shaw of my staff at (206) 553-0171, if you have any questions.

Sincerely



Michael J. Lidgard, Manager  
NPDES Permits Unit

Enclosures